

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1501

April 7, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: RAISE Grant Application, Corridor MPO and Linn County, Iowa – Tower Terrace Road Corridor

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am reaching out to express my full support of the Corridor MPO, Linn County application for the RAISE Grant Program to fund the Tower Terrace Road Corridor Project spanning the cities of Cedar Rapids, Hiawatha, Robins, and Marion. The Cedar Rapids metro area is a resilient and thriving metropolitan city with a robust suburban community that I am proud to represent in Congress and I am proud to express continuous support for the Tower Terrace Road Corridor Project.

This project is a long-awaited revitalization to the local community, which has far outgrown its transportation infrastructure. If the grant is awarded, the aforementioned cities will use these funds to assist with the ongoing \$90 million project focused around creating a new interchange between I-380 and Tower Terrace Road. The corridor to connect these two parallel major highways on opposite sides of the Cedar Rapids metro area will decongest roadways, increase pedestrian and cyclist safety, and boost economic vitality. The project will also improve local water quality by incorporating cleansing amenities.

This project would have an impact on the day-to-day lives of every single resident in the community and surrounding area. Decongesting the local roadways will allow emergency vehicles to respond to disasters more quickly, keep children playing outdoors safe, transform longer distances to schools and businesses into reasonable commutes, and improve sustainability and water infrastructure in a rapidly growing area. The entire Tower Terrace project has been underway for over a decade, and the finalization of these underfunded portions would allow the community to reap the benefits of this long-awaited infrastructure overhaul.

We must continue to support the physical infrastructure needs of communities like Linn County, which drive the economic growth of our nation. Updates such as these are essential to the future growth and prosperity of communities like my district. I am confident that the Cedar Rapids metro area will continue to flourish, particularly with the help of this RAISE Grant, for years to come.

Thank you for considering this request on its many merits. I look forward to working with you on this and other critical infrastructure projects. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Carly Kilgore in my office at carly.kilgore@mail.house.gov directly should you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Ashley Hinson
Member of Congress